

August 29, 2014

To whom it may concern:

I would like to recommend Deqi Li for employment. I know him very well compared to most other graduate students here at the University of Auckland. Li has taken three of my courses (Applied Algorithmics, Advanced Algorithms, and Computational Complexity) as a student and was ranked in the top 10% to 40% of each class, with A grades in two of them. I also supervised his summer research graduate project where he had the goal of finding optimal routings on big road maps using state-of-the-art graph algorithms in C++ (later in Java). I should mention that he continues to actively participate in my student research seminars even though his project was finished earlier in March. He clearly has above average programming skills and algorithm design and analysis abilities. One proof of these skills is him being on the 1st place team for the 2013 New Zealand Programming Contest. He also is known for submitting several of the fastest programs for various programming assignments in the Applied Algorithmics class, as both student last year and as the official paid marker this year.

On a personal note, I find Li very friendly and pleasant to discuss both academic and social topics. I am pleased that he (like me) loves the challenge of solving combinatorial and logic problems. He is diligent and well focused on a great many topics and has a special curiosity to learn new things. I also have had the nice opportunity of playing both International and Chinese Chess with him—his skill is very strong and innovative.

Regards,



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